



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney

Contact: Kena Rice

(316) 269-6481

Headquarters
1200 Epic Center
301 N. Main
Wichita, Kansas 67202
(316)269-6481
FAX (316)269-6484

Topeka Office
444 Quincy
Topeka, Kansas 66683

Kansas City Office
500 State Avenue
Suite 360
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

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THREE FROM PARSONS, KANSAS, PLEAD GUILTY IN CRACK COCAINE CASE

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Ronald Kendricks**, 24, and **Rowshane Dunn**, 29, both from Parsons, Kansas, each entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge G. Thomas VanBebber on August 3, 2004. **Debra Loyd**, 36, Parsons, Kansas, entered a guilty plea on July 19, 2004, before U.S. District Judge G. Thomas VanBebber. **Kendricks** entered a guilty plea to **distributing crack cocaine**, **Dunn** entered a guilty plea to **distributing and possession with the intent to distribute crack cocaine**, and **Loyd** entered a guilty plea to **aiding and abetting the distribution of crack cocaine within 1,000 feet of a public junior college**.

Kendricks admitted at his plea that on October 29, 2002, he sold approximately 1/8 ounce of crack cocaine for \$300 to an undercover officer. **Kendricks** further admitted that he had been distributing crack cocaine in the Parsons, Kansas, area for the past several years. **Kendricks** faces a maximum of twenty years in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for October 18, 2004.

Dunn admitted at her plea that on September 3, 1999, she was arrested by officers with the Parsons Police Department for fighting and during a search of her person, officers found 10 rocks of crack cocaine. **Dunn** also admitted that on December 19, 2002, and August 12, 2003, she sold crack cocaine to a cooperating individual working with law enforcement officers. **Dunn** also admitted that she had been selling crack cocaine for approximately six years. **Dunn** faces a maximum of twenty years in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for October 18, 2004.

Loyd admitted at her plea that on June 6, 2002, June 14, 2002, and June 26, 2002, she sold crack cocaine to an undercover officer in a drug transaction arranged by co-defendant Shannon Harris. **Loyd** further admitted that she sold the crack cocaine from her residence on

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North 14th Street, Parsons, Kansas, which is within 1,000 feet of Labette County Community College. Loyd faces a minimum of one year and a maximum of forty years in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for October 4, 2004, at 3:00 p.m.

Melgren said that Kendricks, Dunn, and Loyd were charged in related cases as part of a two and one-half year investigation by the Southeast Kansas Drug Task Force into the distribution of crack cocaine in Southeast Kansas.

Co-defendant **James Jackson**, 36, Parsons, Kansas, entered a guilty plea on July 12, 2004, to distributing more than 5 grams of crack cocaine. Jackson faces a minimum of ten years and a maximum of life in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for September 27, 2004, at 3:00 p.m.

Co-defendant **Vanissa Haggard**, 35, Parsons, Kansas, entered a guilty plea on July 12, 2004, to distributing crack cocaine. Haggard admitted at her plea that on March 18, 2003, she sold approximately 2.2 grams of crack cocaine to an undercover KBI agent working on this investigation. Haggard faces a maximum of twenty years in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for September 27, 2004.

Co-defendant **Franchester Griffin**, 28, Parsons, Kansas, entered a guilty plea on June 28, 2004, to one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute 50 grams of more (1.76 ounces or more) of crack cocaine. Griffin faces a minimum of ten years and a maximum of life in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for September 13, 2004.

Co-defendants **Adam Davis**, 29, and **Joseph Riley**, 25, both of Parson, Kansas, entered guilty pleas on June 7, 2004. **Davis** entered a plea to one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. Davis faces a minimum of twenty years and a maximum of life in federal prison without parole. He is set for sentencing on August 23, 2004. **Riley** entered a plea to one count of distributing more than 5 grams of crack cocaine. Riley faces a minimum of ten years and a maximum of life in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for August 30, 2004.

Co-defendant **Shannon Harris**, 29, Parsons, Kansas, entered a guilty plea on May 28, 2004, to one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. Harris faces a minimum of twenty years and a maximum of life in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for October 18, 2004, at 3:00 p.m.

Co-defendants **David Robinson**, 51, and **Wendell Martin**, 23, both of Parsons, Kansas, and **Timothy Hans Ford**, 35, Coffeyville, Kansas, are each set for a jury trial on August 24, 2004, at 9:30 a.m.

Co-defendant **Rita Smith**, 36, Parsons, Kansas, entered a guilty plea on June 7, 2004, to one count of distributing crack cocaine within 1000 feet of Garfield Elementary School in

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Parsons, Kansas. Smith faces a minimum of one year and a maximum of forty years in federal prison without parole. Sentencing is set for August 23, 2004, at 3:00 p.m.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Parsons Police Department, the Labette County Sheriff's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, the Coffeyville Police Department, the Winfield Police Department, the Joplin, Missouri Police Department, the Labette County Attorney's Office, and the Cowley County Attorney's Office in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Rask in this prosecution.